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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Hitoshi TSUNASHIMA, )  
                  et al.         )  
                  )  
U.S. Appln. No.: not yet         ) Group: not yet assigned  
                  assigned         )  
                  )  
U.S. Filing Date: concurrently     ) Examiner: not yet assigned  
                  herewith         )  
                  )  
International Application No:      )  
                  PCT/JP2004/010618     )  
International Filing Date:         )  
                  26 July 2004         ) Our Ref.: B-5875PCT 623209-5  
                  )  
For: "IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, AND     )  
COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING         )  
MEDIUM IN WHICH IMAGE                 )  
PROCESSING PROGRAM IS RECORDED") Date: January 24, 2006

**35 U.S.C. 119 CLAIM TO PRIORITY**

MAIL STOP PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attn: United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US)

Sir:

Prior PCT International Application No. PCT/JP2004/010618,  
designating the U.S., claims priority as follows:

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>	<u>SERIAL NUMBER</u>
JAPAN	24 July 2003	2003-201422

The certified copies have been filed in prior PCT International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/010618.

Applicants hereby confirm that this claim for priority applies to the above-identified U.S. International stage application.

Respectfully submitted,



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